

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the 526th Meeting
September 15, 2025**

Jason Rosenstock, MD, Chair
Bill Yates, PhD, Vice Chair

Business of the Curriculum Committee on September 15, 2025

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of Meeting Minutes from 8/18	8 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Policy Update: Academic Remediation, Observation, and Warning	12 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Foundations Course Learning Objectives Update	11 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Proposed Wording Changes for EPO 20 and 21	12 Yes, 0 No	YES

Voting Members Present: A. Brophy, MS2; A. Tanna, MS2; A. Slingerland, MS4; B. Yates, PhD; C. Yanta, MD; E. Egbert, MS2; G. Booth, MS4; H. Sukumvanich, MD; J. Waxman, MD, PhD; J. Rosenstock, MD; O. Torres, MD, MS; P. Drain, PhD; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Truschel, PhD; V. Agarwal, MD

Ex-Officio Members Present: A. Hyderi, MD, MPH; A. Serra, MD, MPH; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS

Invited Colleagues and Guests: A. Young, MLIS; A. Murillo, MD; C. Branstetter, MD; C. Newman; E. Lovallo, MD, G. Perez, MD; G. Null, MA; J. Kotey, MA; J. Maier, PhD, MD; J. DeCicco, MS3; J. Jarrell, MS4; K. Scott, MA; K. Stanley, MS4; K. Miller, MS; M. Haley, MD; M. Sergeant, MPH, MSL; P. Workman, MD; R. Powers, PhD; R. Peterson, MD; T. Bui, MD

Members participated virtually and in-person.

Dr. Rosenstock opened the meeting at 4:00PM.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes from 8/18.

**Policy Update: Academic
Remediation, Observation, and
Warning**

The committee discussed an update on the Academic Remediation, Observation and Warning Policy focusing mainly on clarifying scheduling and notice requirements for makeup and remediation exams. Key points:

- **Clarification:** Previous confusion around “10 days” for remediation was actually about *advance notice* needed for OMED to schedule exams, not the remediation timeline itself.
 - **Remediation exam during Flex Week:** require 2 business days’ notice.
 - **Remediation exam not during Flex Week:** require 7 business days’ notice.
- **Scheduling:** Students must schedule remediation/makeup exams with the assessment coordinator within these timelines.
- **Policy Change:** Updated language clarifies that students who fail benchmarks (while on observation or warning) are referred to the promotions committee, which *may* dismiss them, rather than automatic dismissal.
- **Flexibility:** While advance notice is required, short-notice requests will be accommodated when possible. The group agreed that Friday of a flex week is often the best time to remediate, but individual needs will be considered.

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Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE the Academic, Remediation, Observation, and Warning Policy update.

Foundations Course Learning

Objectives Update

Kathy Senko gave a brief overview regarding bulk changes to course learning objectives (CLOs).

- **Green Courses:** Minor wording updates (e.g., “understand” → “illustrate,” “learn” → “demonstrate”).
- **Yellow Courses (Cardio and Digestion & Nutrition):** More substantial revisions to better align with Educational Program Objectives (EPOs); some objectives were split or expanded (e.g., cardiology from 4 → 6 CLOs; neuroscience from 4 → 13).
- **Red Course (Psychiatry):** Still under revision and will be considered separately.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE the Foundations Course Learning Objectives.

EPOs 20 and 21: Proposed Wording

Changes

Dr. Eloho Ufomata proposed wording changes to EPOs 20 and 21 to better align with our curriculum:

Systems-Based Practice: EPO-20

- **Old:** Develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to provide culturally competent care
- **New:** Develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to provide culturally competent and culturally sensitive care

Systems-Based Practice: EPO-21

- **Old:** Recognize and develop approaches to mitigate bias, social inequities, and systemic racism that undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at individual, organizational, and societal levels
- **New:** Recognize and critically analyze structural determinants of health and apply principles of structural competency to design and implement strategies that advance high-quality, equitable health outcomes at the individual, organizational, and societal levels.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE the proposed wording changes for EPO 20 and 21

Bridges Phase Subcommittee Update

Dr. Eloho Ufomata gave a brief Bridges Phase Subcommittee update. The structure, responsibilities, and ongoing work were discussed:

- **Role:** Provide oversight of the Bridges Phase, electives, acting internships, and transition from UME to GME.
- **Components:** Step 2 prep, AIs, electives, discovery/flex weeks, diagnostics, ALCE, acute care month, ILS, recess, and Boot Camp.
- **Updates:** Approved new electives and Diagnostics Course, launched ILS and ALCE planning, moved content/assessments to Elentra, and developed processes for away rotation reviews.
- **Next Steps:** Form a task force to design Discovery Flex Weeks; unresolved issue remains on Step 2 timing for off-cycle students.

Another Bridges Phase Subcommittee update will occur in the Spring of 2026.

Assessment Subcommittee Update

Drs. Mike Elnicki and Reed Van Deusen gave a brief Assessment Subcommittee update. The following was discussed:

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- **Membership & Collaboration:** Faculty, students, and administrative staff are actively engaged; students play a key role in moving work forward.
- **Foundations/Organ Systems:** Major progress in exam quality—MCQs now vetted by the committee, standard setting standardized with the Ebel method, and statistical feedback shared with course leads.
- **Progress Testing:** Pitt among the few U.S. schools leading adoption of NBME-produced formative progress tests (already common in Canada/Europe).
- **Clerkship & Bridges Phases:** Work underway to standardize clerkship assessments, fourth-year elective assessments, and to examine weighting/cut points for multiple measures (subject exams, OSCEs, workplace-based forms).
- **OSCEs & Clinical Competency Assessment (graduation requirement):**
 - Clinical Competency Assessment (CCA) begins with a 6-station “screening OSCE”
 - Assesses communication, history/physical exam skills, and clinical reasoning (via notes).
 - Failures usually tied to reasoning gaps.
 - **Goal:** Complete all CCAs earlier (by June 30) and improve alignment of summative OSCEs across courses.
- **Future Directions:** Closer alignment of OSCEs, better scheduling within Bridges, ongoing work on predictive validity of assessment data, and scholarly opportunities for publication.

Another Assessment Subcommittee update will occur in the Spring of 2026.

The next meeting is on Monday, October 6th at 4PM. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sergent, recording secretary.